

Opportunities for Natural System Drainage and Open Space

Northgate South Lot

Northgate Stakeholders Group
March 18, 2004

Seattle Public Utilities

The background of the slide is a photograph of a river scene. In the foreground, there are large, light-colored rocks. A river flows through the middle ground, with a small bridge visible in the distance. The background is filled with lush green trees and foliage. The overall tone is natural and serene.

City Council Direction

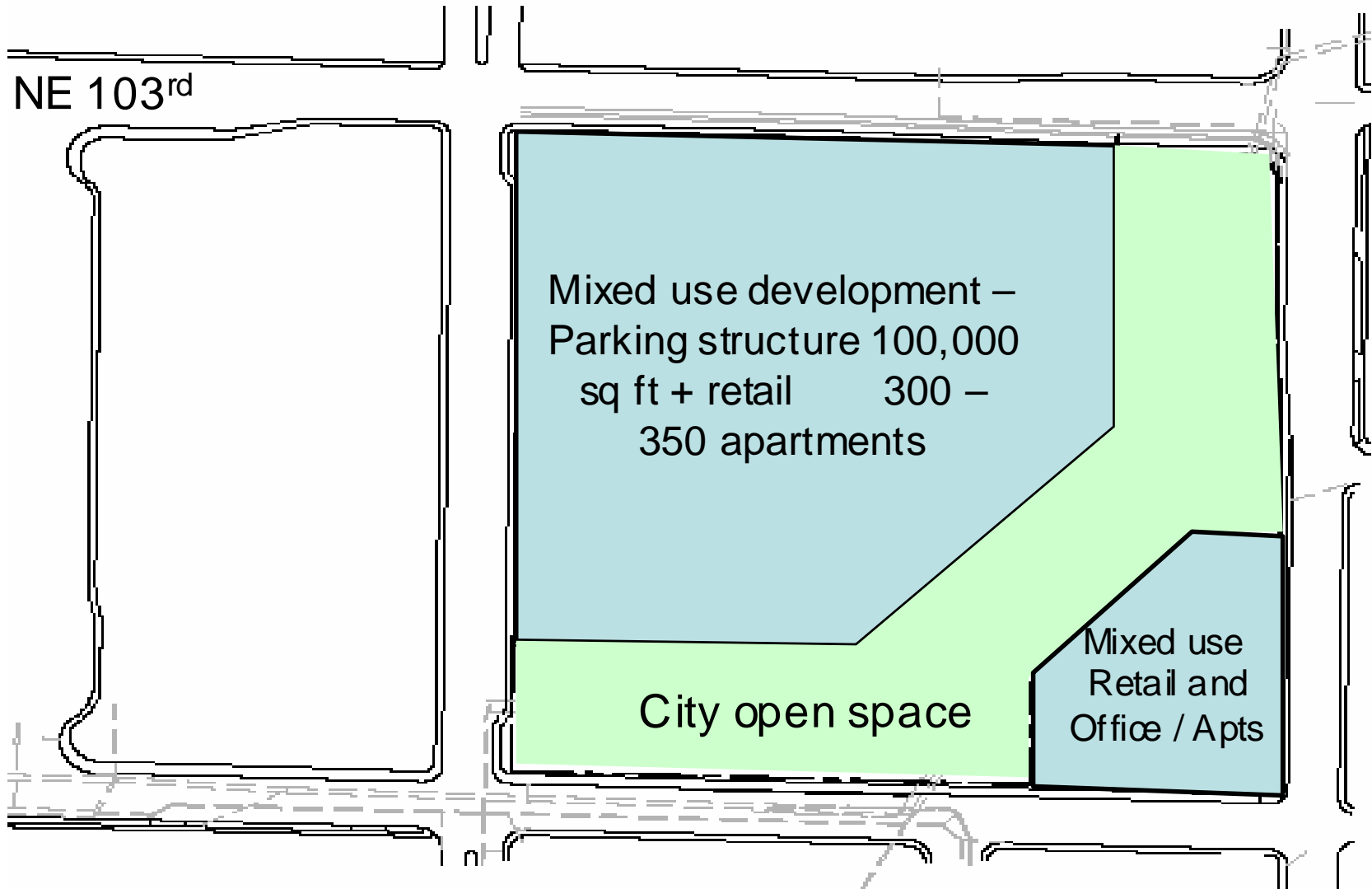
1. SPU Recommendation to integrate natural drainage and open space
 2. Evaluate three alternatives:
 - Daylight
 - Natural drainage system
 - Combination of Daylight/Natural Systems
- ... plus a no action alternative

NE 103rd

Mixed use development –
Parking structure 100,000
sq ft + retail 300 –
350 apartments

City open space

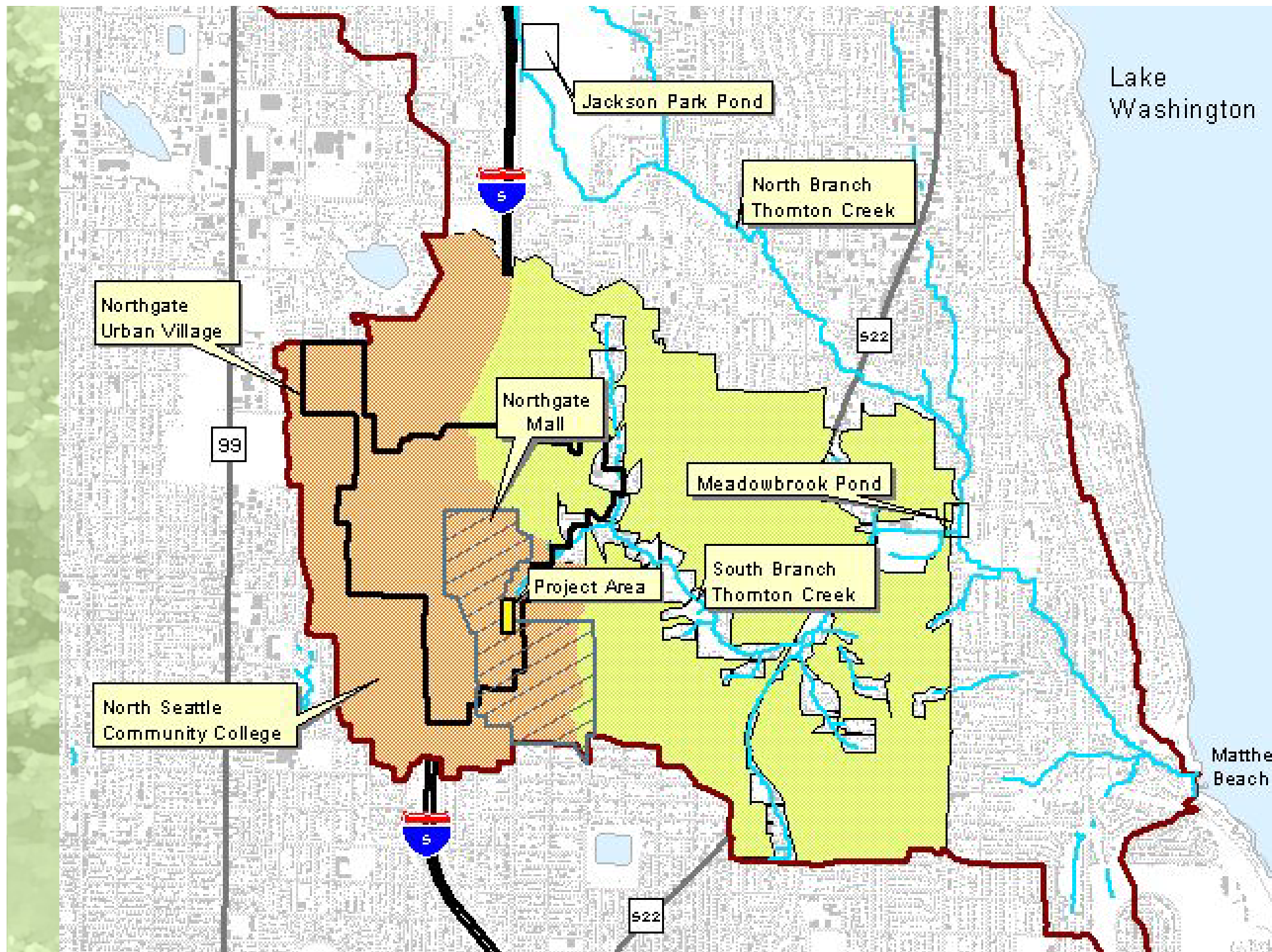
Mixed use
Retail and
Office / Apts

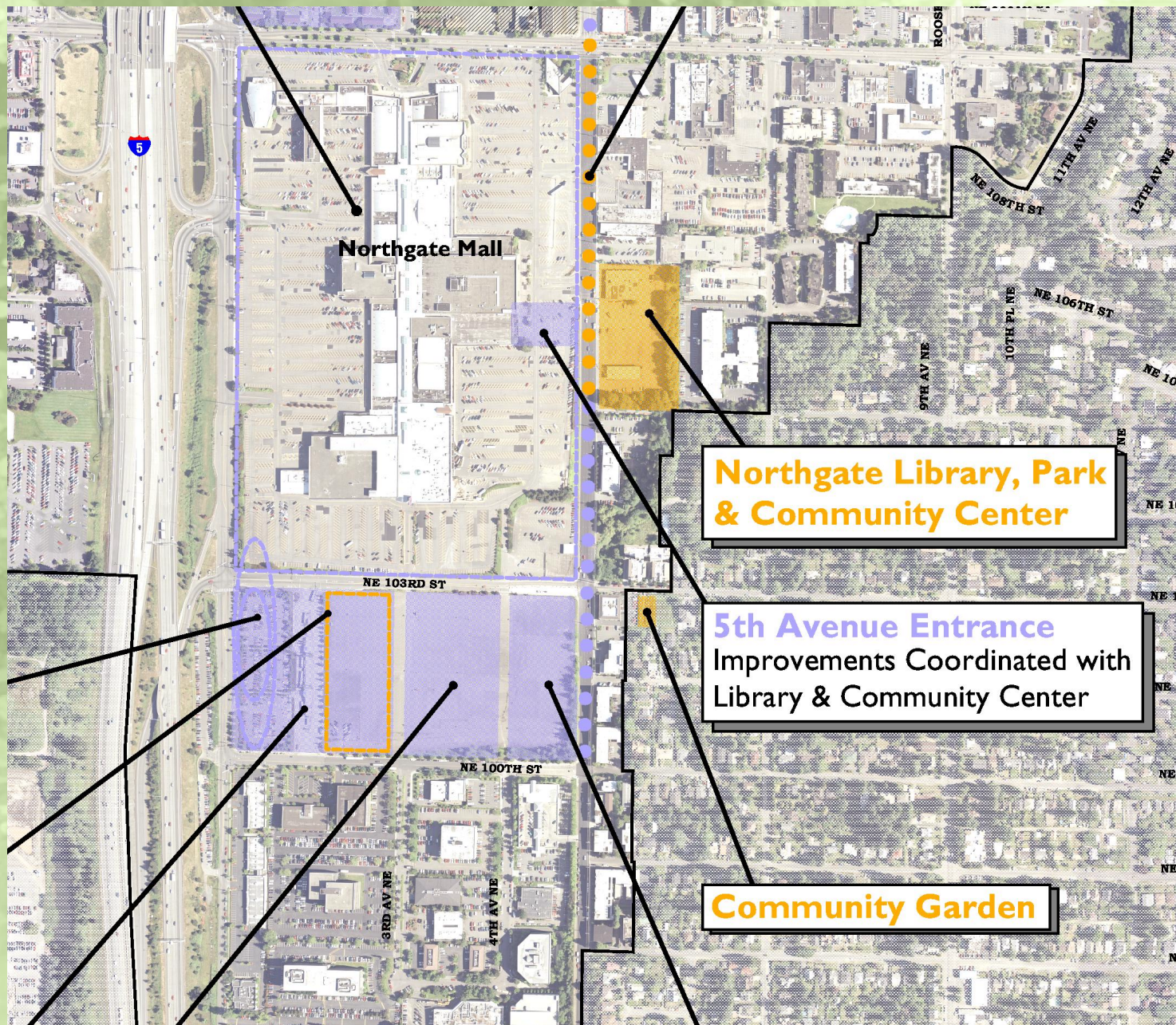


A photograph of a wooden bridge over a river. A person is walking across the bridge. The background shows a river and some trees.

Key Principles

- Identify a cost-effective approach for social and environmental benefits
- Provide water quality benefits to Thornton Creek
- Ensure a responsible choice for ratepayer investment





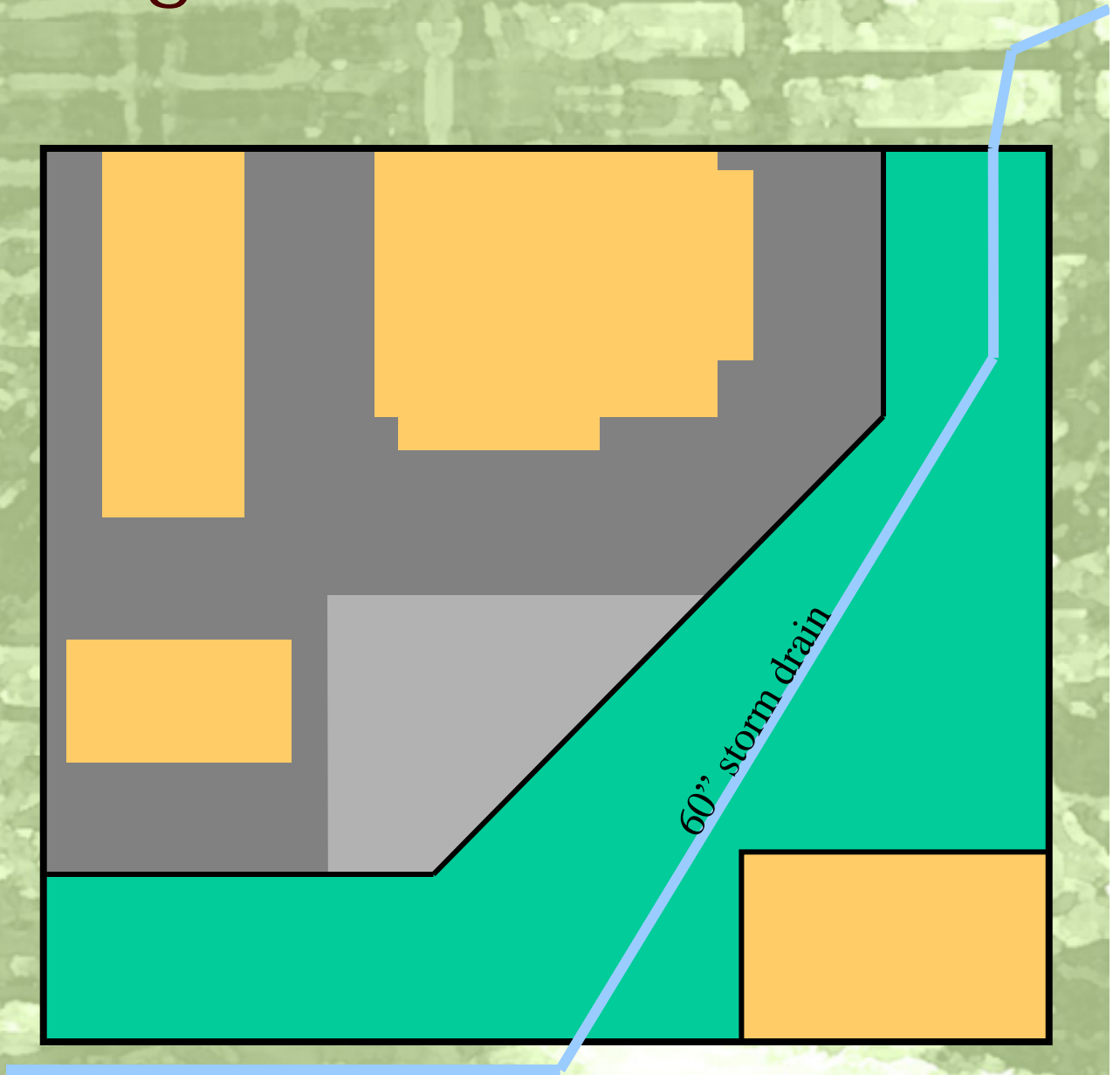


Key Similarities

- Pedestrian access
- Landscaping
- Integrated with adjacent development
- Surface water feature

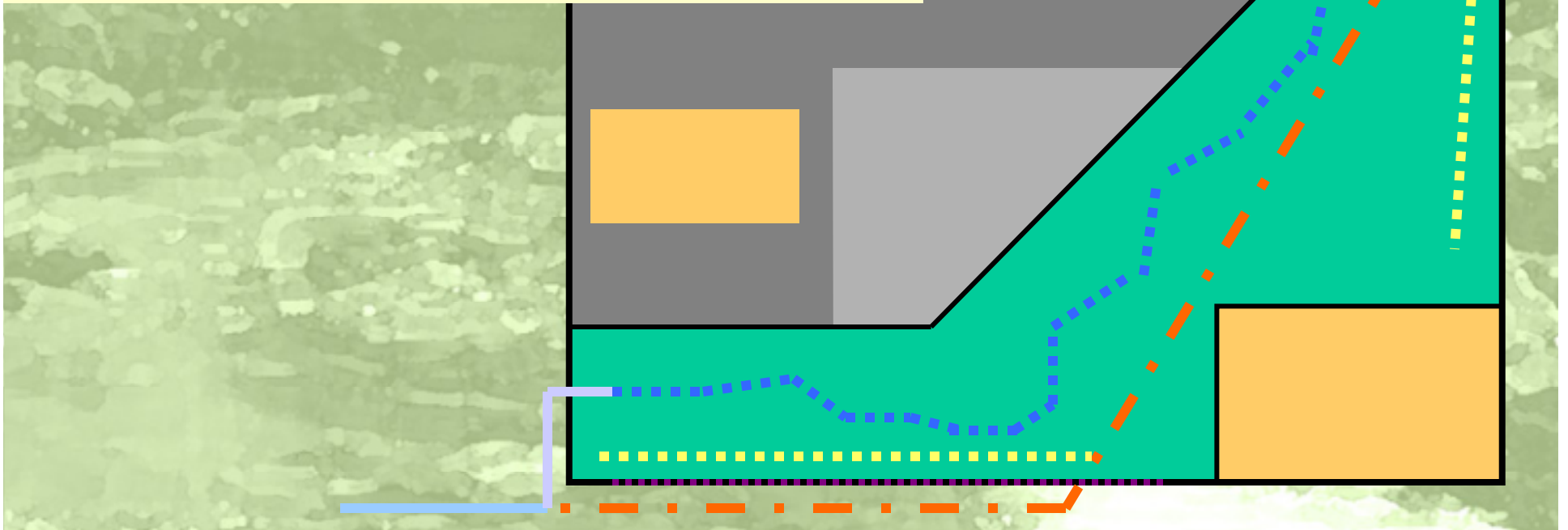
Current Drainage

(concept diagram)

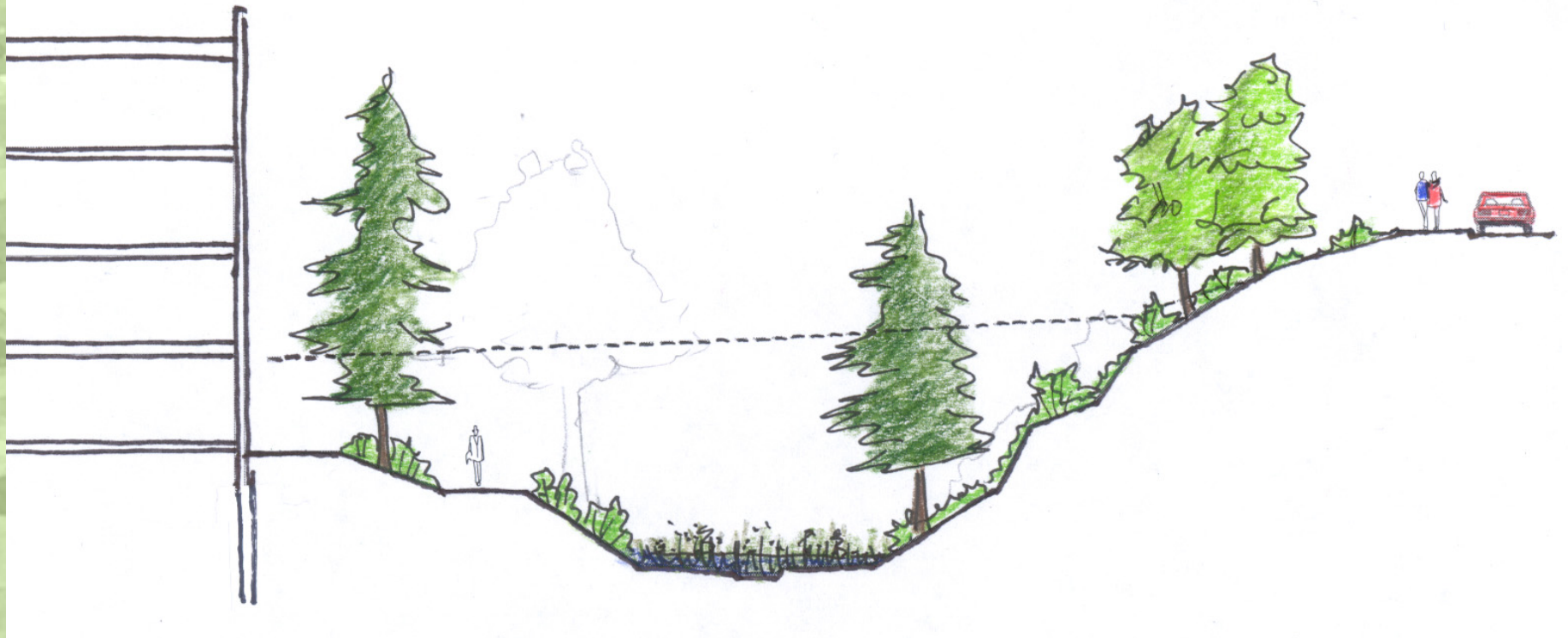


Daylight

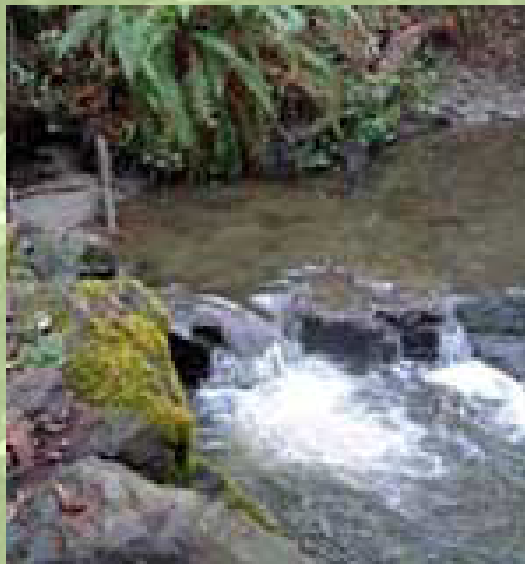
- Excavate down 25'
- Add retaining walls
- Remove pipes
- Create creek channel
- Dry weather & storm flows



Daylight

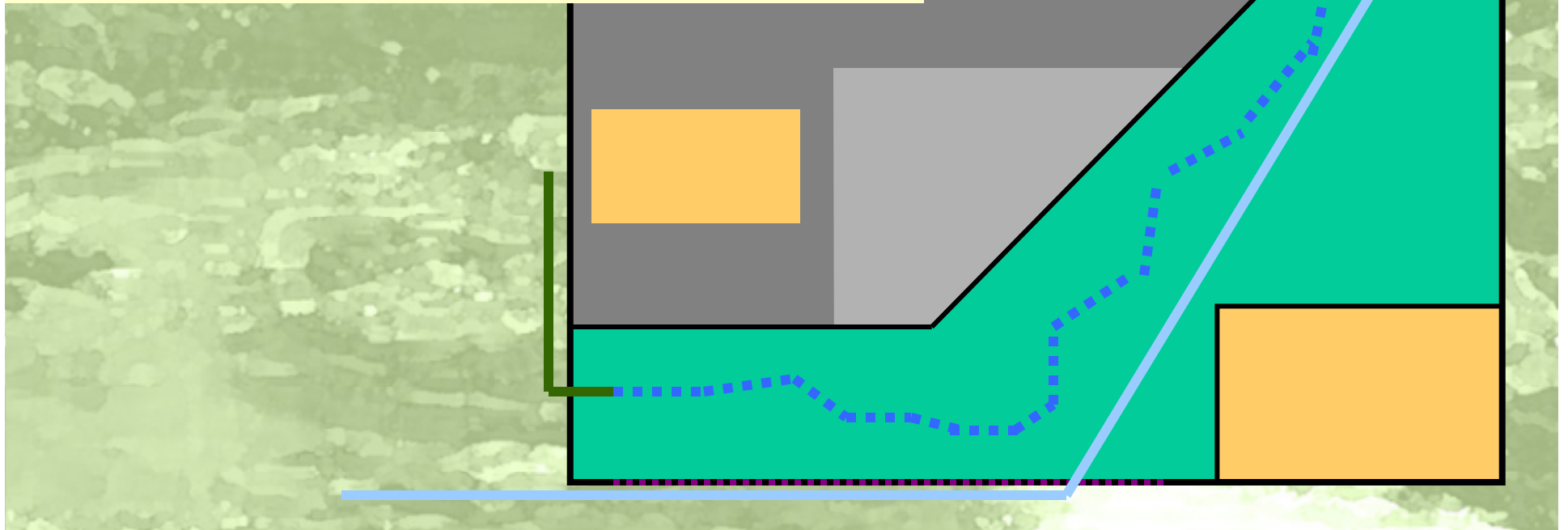


Daylight



Natural Drainage

- No excavation
- Create vegetated swales
- Pipes on site stay in place
- Build new conveyance
- Treat water quality storms



Natural Drainage System

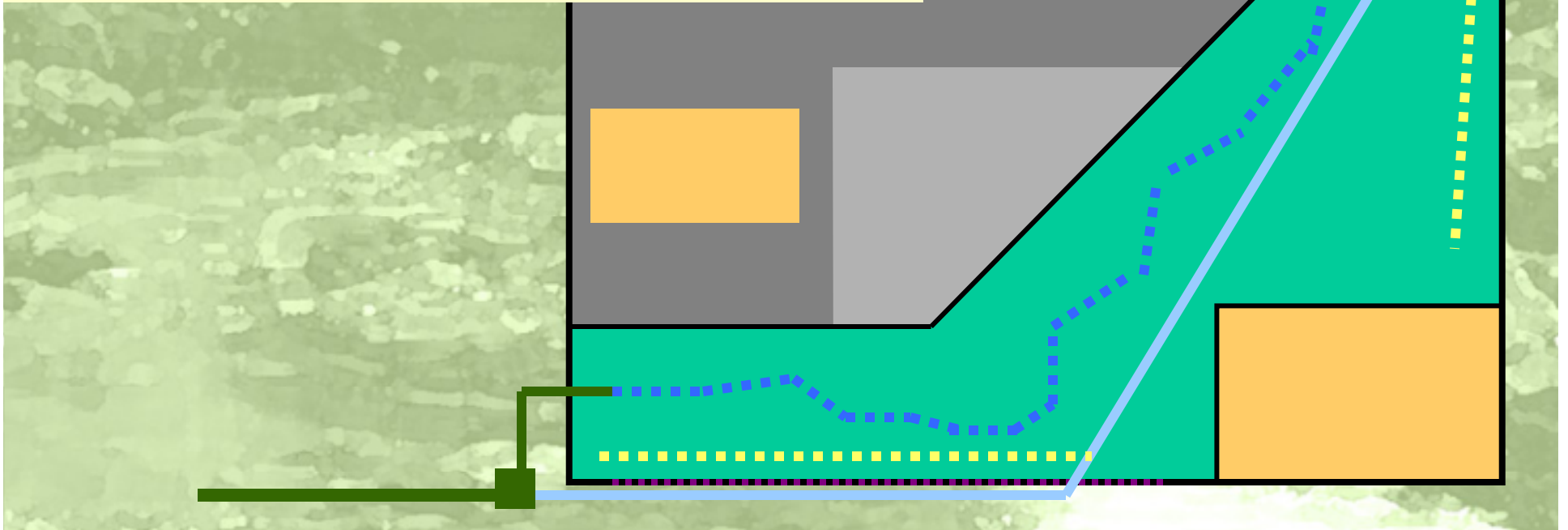


Natural Drainage System



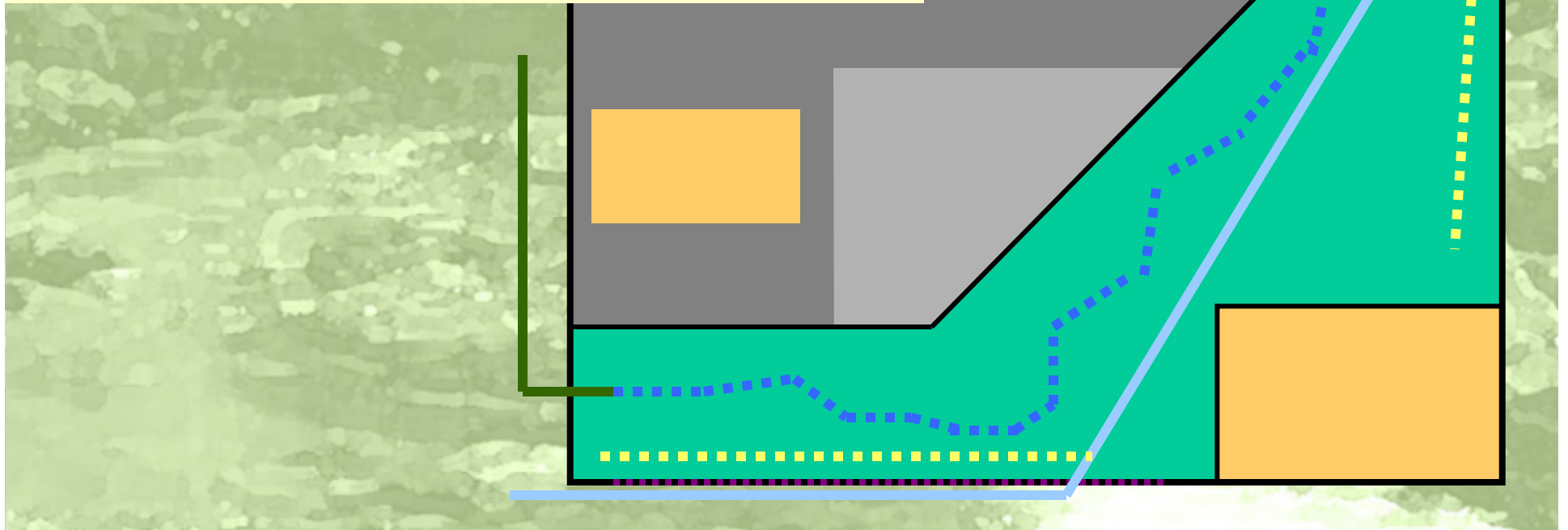
Hybrid A

- Excavate down 20'
- Add retaining walls
- Weir to divert flow from pipe
- Create natural channel
- Dry weather & small storms

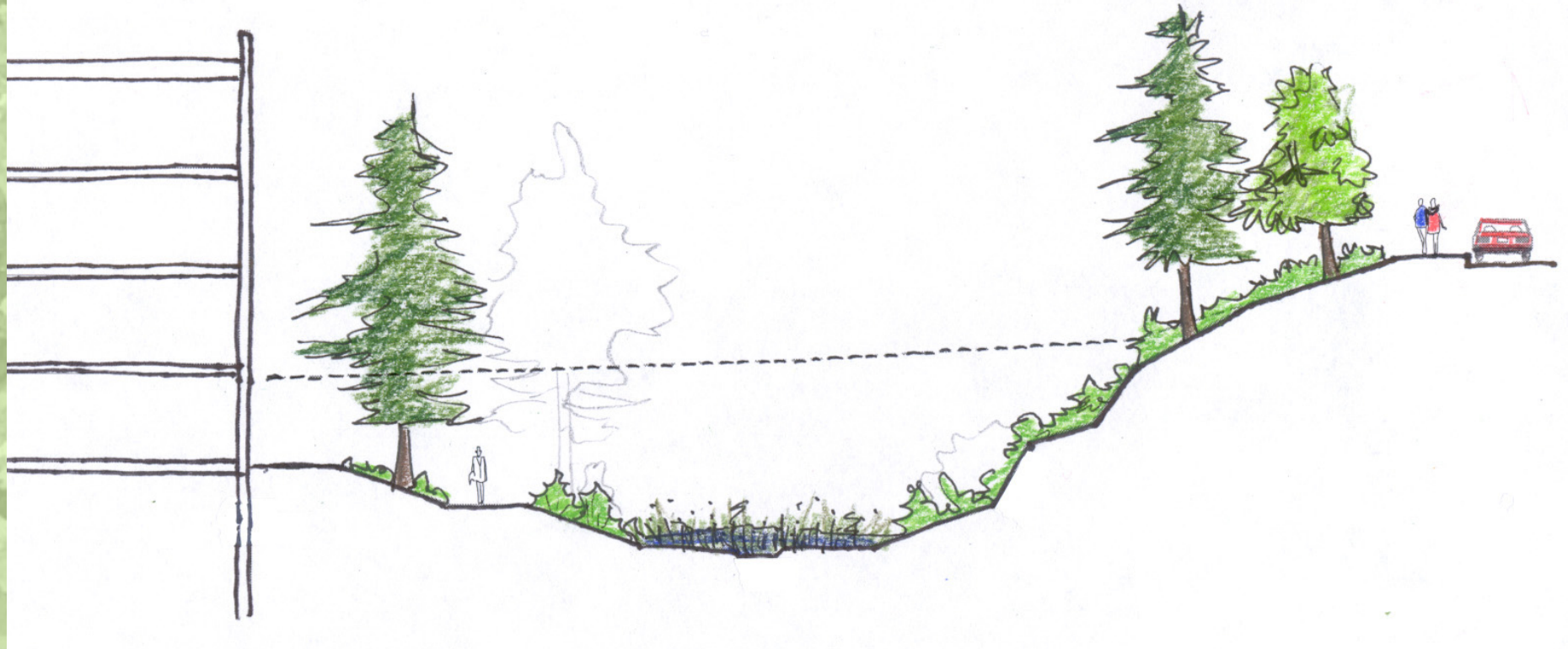


Hybrid A

- Excavate down 20'
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Hybrid of Daylight/Natural System



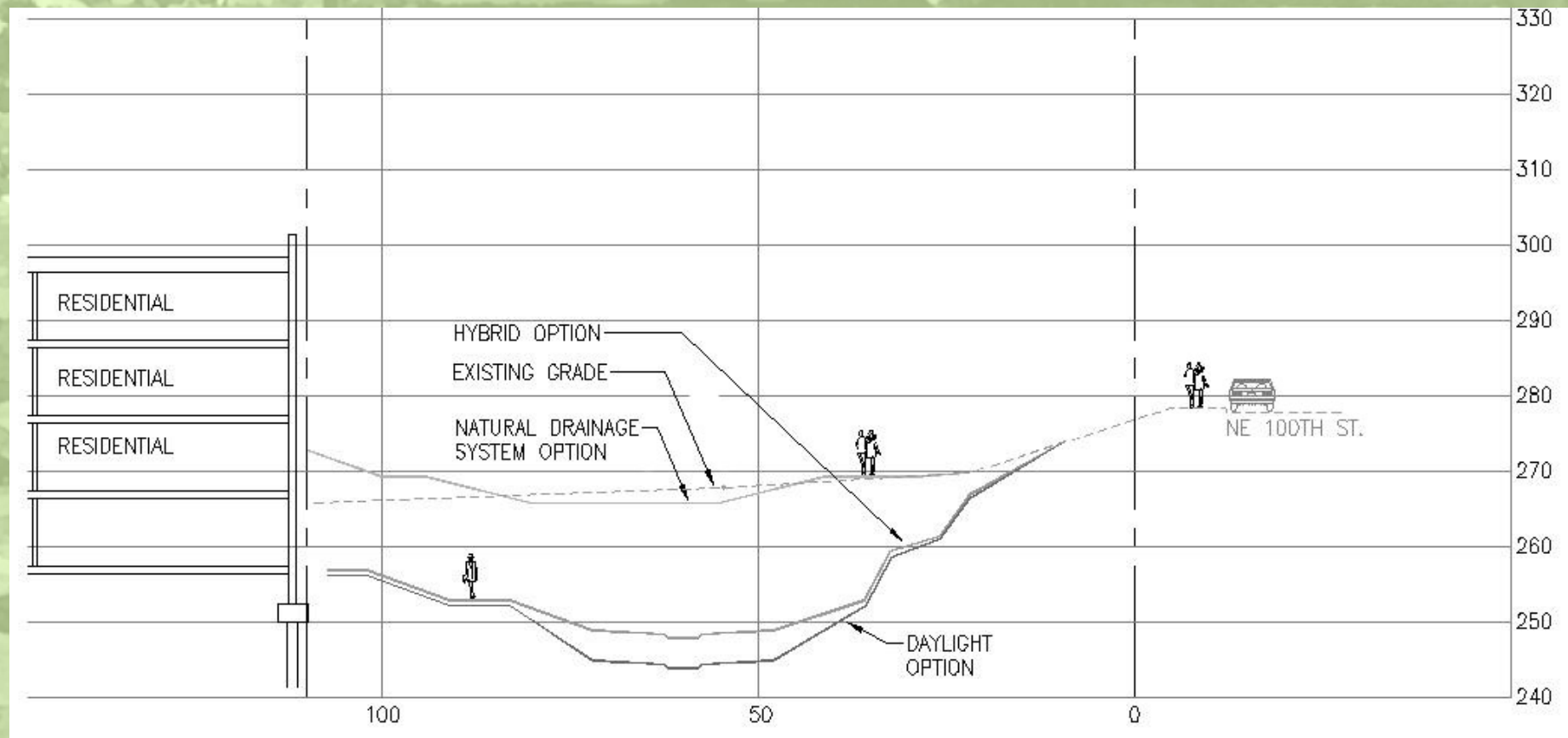
Hybrid of Daylight/Natural System

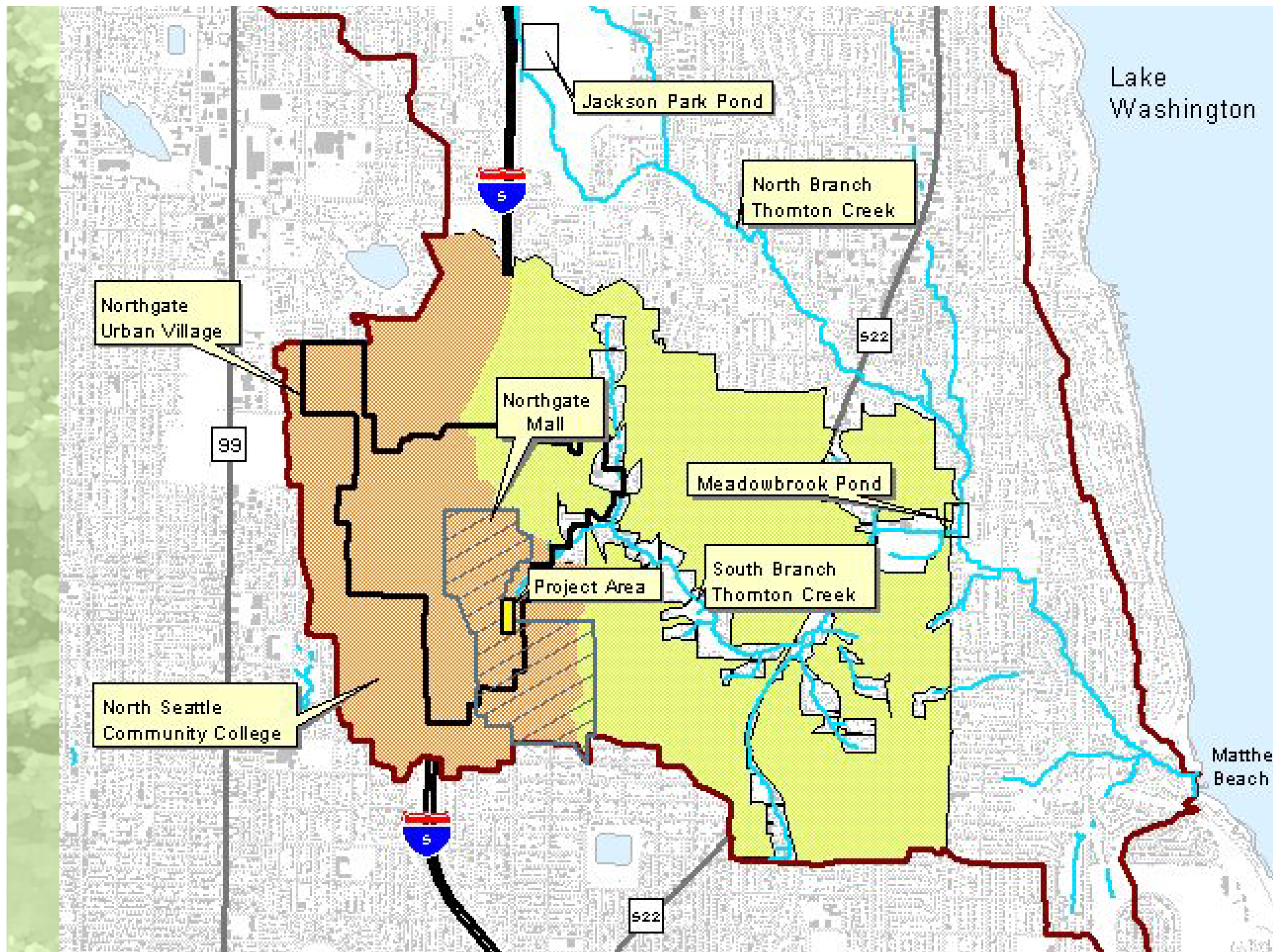


Key Differences

- Depth of open space
- Contributing drainage area
- Amount and duration of flows
- Modification of current pipe system

Depth of Open Space







Asset Management Evaluation

- Evaluate all major projects and programs
- Identify lowest life-cycle cost
- Fulfill customer, environmental service levels
- Executive management review
- Ensures accountability to ratepayers

The background of the slide is a photograph of a stone bridge with multiple arches spanning a river. A person is walking across the bridge. The image is semi-transparent, allowing the text to be overlaid.

Evaluation Criteria

- Cost (Construction and maintenance)
- Engineering feasibility
- Relative risks
- Water quality benefits
- Habitat and flow benefits
- Open space benefits
- Compliance with drainage fund constraints

Team Approach

- Established experienced team
 - Gaynor Inc.
 - PACE Engineering
 - Herrera Environmental Consulting
 - SvR Design
- Firms involved in development of each option
- Review methods and assumptions
- Cost, feasibility and water quality

Stakeholder Schedule

- 3/18 Overview of options, process, roles
- 4/20 Presentation & discussion of criteria, analysis, results
- 5/11 Stakeholders input on alternatives analysis
- 5/20 Presentation on final analysis and recommendations
- 6/3 Stakeholders input on recommendation
- June Recommendation forwarded to City Council